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United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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December 28, 2007

Honorable Gabriel W. Gorenstein United States Magistrate Judge United States Courthouse 500 Pearl Street New York, N.Y. 10007

United States v. Rafael Almanzar

07 Civ. 9489 (RMB) (GWG)

06 Cr. 225 (RMB)

Dear Judge Gorenstein:

The Government respectfully submits this letter to request a 30-day extension of time from January 2, 2008, until February 2, 2008, to respond to the petition pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255 filed by Rafael Almanzar. This is the Government's first request, and the reason for the request is that the Government has ordered - and is still awaiting - various federal and state files related to the petitioner's case. These files are required to properly assess and respond to the petitioner's claims. The Government expects that it will be able to obtain the necessary information in 30 days. Accordingly, the Government requests that its response to Almanzar's habeas petition be due on February 2, 2008.

respond when 30 days thereofter. Granted Patitioner Man

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL J. GARCIA United States Attorney

Assistant United States Attorney

(212) 637-2263

cc: Rafael Almanzar, Pro Se